

My name is Nick Laws. I'm a musician in the Augusta, GA, area. I also own and operate a recording studio called Sector 7G. I've played in two bands for several years now.

My band The Sixth Hour has just completed our first full length CD, which we are releasing independently. We have played around 50 shows in the last year and a half, all in the southeast region. Our following is growing with every show.

One of our local radio stations (Beasley owned) 95 Rock, hosts a show called Homegrown on Sunday nights. It's an hour long. It mostly caters to the taste of it's on air personalities, however. Because of this bias, they mostly play regional folk and soft rock (despite 95 Rock's regular format). Needless to say, we do not get any airplay or support. There is no radio support at any other time despite attempts to gain airplay. We will send both rock stations (95.1 and 92.3) our CD in hopes that it will be played on air, but in all reality it will not.

Anything that can be done to encourage local programming should be done. I'd like to see my band as well as other big local acts be featured during regular rotation.

Local programming should include any music that is available primarily in the listening area. If you can go to Best Buy in another state and buy the CD, it's not local anymore.

Local programming should definitely include music.

Radio station participation should include only what is aired on the radio. Other acts of goodwill are exactly that: goodwill.

I don't know whether payola is a problem. I personally would even pay to hear my music on the air, but I don't think I should have to.

I don't mind pre-recorded broadcasts. If the station can save money, why wouldn't it?

National playlists are the reason I own an XM radio. They have ruined radio. Even if I could be one of the band on regular rotation, they'd play my song so much that it would ruin it for listeners.

I would love to see low power radio and would gladly be a part in any way I can.

Thank you for listening to my opinion.